

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
STEEL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:141  
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2003  
PRODUCTION OF SPONGE IRON  
JAGMEET SINGH BRAR

**Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether India has emerged as the largest producer of sponge iron;
- (b) if so, production of sponge iron recorded during 2002-2003 and expected in 2003-2004;
- (c) the details of the current domestic demand and the quantity exported during 2002-03 and target of export for 2003-04; and
- (d) the foreign exchange earned therefrom during 2002-03 and likely to earn during 2003-04?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY)

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) The production of sponge iron during 2002-2003 was 6.908 million tonnes and production of sponge iron is expected to be 7.500 million tonnes in 2003-2004.
- (c) There have been no exports during 2002-2003 and no export target has been set for 2003-2004. Projected demand for 2003-04 is about 7.4 million tonnes.
- (d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.